

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-12 (Canceled)

13. (Currently Amended) A kit for the withdrawal of a blood vessel filter, the filter having a bush (31) and a plurality of flexible strands (32) fixed to the bush (31) at a first end thereof, a second free end of the strands having hooks (33) directed outward so as to engage the inner wall of a blood vessel, the kit comprising:

a first external catheter (1) having a through hole along the longitudinal axis thereof;

a second catheter (11) having a through hole along the longitudinal axis thereof and a diameter allowing slidable engagement of the second catheter in and for the entire length of the through hole of the first external catheter (1), and

a stem having a plurality of flexible legs (18) fixed at one end of the stem, the flexible legs (18) extending naturally outward from the one end of the stem, a free end of the flexible legs (18) having hooks (20) which extend inwards toward an extension of the longitudinal axis of the stem and

can grasp the bush of the filter when compressed around the bush,

wherein said stem can be slidably engaged in said second catheter (11) to compress the flexible legs (18) within the second catheter (11) or to release the flexible legs so as to be positioned over the bush, and

wherein an assembly of the stem, second catheter, and first external catheter can be inserted within the blood vessel for removal of the filter after the flexible legs have been positioned over the bush and then compressed by the second catheter to engage over the bush and the flexible strands of the filter have been compressed by the first external catheter.

14. (Previously Presented) A kit according to claim 13, wherein the stem has a length that is greater than that of the second catheter (11) and prior to use of the stem for grasping the bush (31) of the filter, is installed in a second catheter (11) so that the said flexible legs (18) of the stem are compressed within the second catheter.

15. (Previously Presented) A kit according to claim 13, wherein the kit comprises a third catheter (21), of a diameter suitable for introduction into the external catheter (1) when not engaged to the second catheter, the

front end (23) of which is closed and chamfered for serving as a dilator during introduction of an assembly consisting of the first catheter (1) and the said third catheter (21) into the blood vessel.

16. (Previously Presented) A kit according to claim 15, wherein the third catheter (21) includes at least one device (26) that is detectable from outside the body, located near a front end of the third catheter.

17. (Previously Presented) A kit according to claim 16, wherein the one device (26) that is detectable from outside the body can be detected by the same detecting device as that used for detecting the bush (31) of the filter.

18. (Previously Presented) A kit according to claim 15, wherein the length of the first, second and third catheters ranges from 40 to 80 cm.

19. (Previously Presented) A kit according to claim 13, wherein the inside diameter of the first external catheter ranges from 4.7mm to 2.3mm and from 4.0mm to 1.67mm for the inside diameter of the second catheter.

20. (Previously Presented) A kit according to claim 16, wherein the device that is detectable from outside the body comprises a ring that is radiopaque.

21. (Previously Presented) A kit according to claim 16, wherein the length of the first, second and third catheters ranges from 40 to 80 cm.

22. (Previously Presented) A kit according to claim 21, wherein the inside diameter of the first external catheter ranges from 4.7mm to 2.3mm and from 4.0mm to 1.67mm for the inside diameter of the second catheter.

23. (Previously Presented) A kit according to claim 22, wherein the device that is detectable from outside the body comprises a ring that is radiopaque.